



Eligibility Operations Memo 11-09
November 15, 2011

TO: MassHealth Eligibility Operations Staff

FROM: Amy Andrade, Director, Member and Provider Services

RE: Medex Premium Rate Increase

Introduction

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Massachusetts has received approval from the Division of Insurance on the following premium rates for all of its nongroup Medex plans: Medex Gold, Medex Silver, Medex Standard, Medex Basic, Medex Bronze, Medex Core, Medex Core Plus, Medex Basic without Pharmacy, and Medex Core Plus without Pharmacy, effective January 1, 2012.

Rate Changes and PACES Codes

The Medex plans, PACES codes, old and new quarterly rates, and new monthly premiums appear in the chart below. The new monthly premium is the amount allowed as a patient-paid amount (PPA) deduction after other deductions that get priority under MassHealth regulations at 130 CMR 520.026. Fees for special billing arrangements that cause a premium to exceed these amounts are not allowable PPA deductions.

Medex Plan	PACES Code	2011 Quarterly Rate	2012 Quarterly Rate	2012 Monthly Premium
Basic	1	\$1,104.84	\$1,141.11	\$380.37
Bronze	2	\$ 544.23	\$ 558.33	\$186.11
Gold	3	\$2,015.10	\$2,063.49	\$687.83
Standard	4	\$1,453.05	\$1,501.47	\$500.49
Core Plus	6	\$ 467.10	\$ 479.79	\$159.93
Core	7	\$ 286.53	\$ 297.87	\$ 99.29
Silver	8	\$1,477.95	\$1,564.23	\$521.41
Basic without Rx	B	\$ 549.39	\$ 601.71	\$200.57
Core Plus without Rx	C	\$ 376.32	\$ 395.43	\$131.81

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Rate Changes and
PACES Codes
(cont.)

Important: The correct use of PACES codes prevents values greater than the maximum premium amount from being entered. Workers can enter an amount that is less than the current maximum premium amount to calculate a retroactive PPA.

Medex Basic, Gold, Silver, Core Plus, Standard, Basic without Pharmacy, and Core Plus without Pharmacy are closed to new members.

System Changes

Community MassHealth cases with Medex coding will be updated with the new premium amounts for both MA21 and PACES.

Long-term-care MassHealth cases with Medex coding will also be updated with the new premium amounts by the system. MassHealth will recalculate the PPAs for these cases in January 2012.

PPA Notices

During the month of December 2011, MassHealth will mail system-generated notices containing information about the new PPAs to affected long-term-care members, eligibility representatives, and nursing facilities.

Questions

If you have any questions about this memo, please have your MEC designee contact the Policy Hotline.
